

## RESPONSE TO LIQUIDATING TRUST'S THIRTY-NINTH OMNIBUS OBJECTION TO LANDLORD CLAIMS (REDUCTION OF CERTAIN INVALID CLAIMS-MITIGATION)

Berkadia Commercial Mortgage, LLC, ("Berkadia") successor-in- interest to Capmark
Finance, Inc. on behalf of Bank of America National Association as Successor by Merger to
LaSalle Bank National Association fka LaSalle National (the "Claimholder"), by and through its
counsel Bryan Cave LLP, hereby files this Response to Liquidating Trust's Thirty-Ninth
Omnibus Objection To Landlord Claims (Reduction of Certain Invalid Claims Mitigation) (the
"Objection"), and states as follows:

- 1. The Trustee has objected to the proof of claim number 12663 (the "Claim") filed by Claimholder alleging that Claimholder has not meet its mitigation burden.
- 2. The Objection offers no explanation for Trustee's basis for seeking a reduction of the Claim.
- 3. Rule 3001(f) of the Federal Rules of Bankruptcy Procedure provides that a "proof of claim executed and filed in accordance with these rules shall constitute prima facie evidence of the validity and amount of the claim. Fed. R. Bankr P. 3001(f).
- 4. After a creditor has timely and properly filed a proof of claim, the Debtor must produce substantial evidence to rebut this prima facie evidence. See in re Hemingway Transp.

Inc. 993 F.2d 915, 925 (1<sup>st</sup> Cir. 1993) ("The interposition of an objection does not deprive the proof of claim of presumptive validity unless the objection is supported by substantial evidence"); In re Harford Sands, Inc. 372 F.3d 637,640-41 (4<sup>th</sup> Cir. 2004) (Creditor's filing of proof of claim constitutes prima facie evidence of amount and validity of claim, and burden is on debtor to object to claim and to introduce evidence to rebut its presumptive validity); In re Gran, 964 F.2d 882, 827 (8<sup>th</sup> Cir. 1992) ("The objection party must then produce evidence rebutting the claimant or else the claimant will prevail.")

- 5. The Trustee bears the burden of proof for the disallowance of any portion of the Claim. See In re Woodmere Investors Ltd. Partnership, 178 B.R. 346, 354 (Bankr. S.D.N.Y 1995).
- 6. The Trustee has asserted no evidence whatsoever, that Claimholder has failed to mitigate its damages.
- 7. Based on information and belief, Claimholder has marketed and sold the property that is the subject of its Claim and has therefore mitigated its damages.
- 8. Because Trustee has produced no evidence whatsoever in support of the proposed reduction, the Trustee has failed to meet its burden of proof.

WHEREFORE, Claimholder respectfully requests that the Court (a) overrule the Objection as it relates to the Claim; (b) allow the Claim as provided in Claimholder proof of claim; and (c) grant Claimholder such other and further relief as this Court deems appropriate under the circumstances.

Dated: June 22, 2012

## **BRYAN CAVE LLP**

By:/s/ Philip J. Meitl
Philip J. Meitl (VA Bar No. 73215)
Bryan Cave LLP
1155 F Street NW, Suite 700, Washington DC
20004
(202) 508-6000 (phone)

**AND** 

By:/s/ Keitha M. Wright

Keith M. Aurzada State Bar No. 24009880 Keitha M. Wright State Bar No. 24075310 2200 Ross Avenue, Suite 3300 Dallas, Texas 75201 (214) 468-3800 (Phone) (214) 468-3888 (Fax)

Attorneys for Claimholder

## **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

The undersigned hereby states that on the 2<sup>nd</sup> day of July, 2012, a true and correct copy of the above foregoing instrument was sent to:

Clerk of the Bankruptcy Court United States Bankruptcy Court 701 East Broad Street-Room 4000 Richmond, VA 23219

/s/ Phillip J. Meitl